

REGIONAL REVIEW NOTIFICATION

Atlanta Regional Commission • 229 Peachtree Street NE | Suite 100 | Atlanta, Georgia 30303 • ph: 404.463.3100 fax: 404.463.3205 • atlantaregional.org

DATE: September 16, 2024

TO: Chairman Romona Jackson Jones, Douglas County Commission ATTN TO: Allison Duncan, Planning and Zoning Manager, Douglas County

RE: Development of Regional Impact Review

FROM: Mike Alexander, COO, Atlanta Regional Commission

ARC has completed a preliminary regional review of the following DRI. ARC reviewed the DRI's relationship to regional plans, goals and policies – and impacts it may have on the activities, plans, goals and policies of other local jurisdictions as well as state, federal and other agencies. This preliminary report does not address whether the DRI is or is not in the best interest of the local government.

Name of Proposal: DRI 4192 Douglas Waldrop Submitting Local Government: Douglas County

Date Opened: September 16, 2024 Deadline for Comments: September 30, 2024

<u>Description:</u> A DRI review of a proposal to construct a data center with 1,760,850 million SF of space in 2 buildings with associated support facilities on a 166-acre site at 2912 Post Road in Douglas County.

PRELIMINARY COMMENTS:

The project is not aligned with applicable Rural Areas policy recommendations set forth in the Atlanta Region's Plan which stress the need to protect rural areas and their character and note: "There is a strong desire from residents and elected officials in these areas to keep them rural...The region is striving to protect these areas by limiting infrastructure investments to targeted areas and allowing no development or only low impact development."

The project is somewhat aligned with regional environmental policies in that it preserves a large amount of the site as natural area and generally limits stream buffer impacts. It could be more aligned with these policies by creating a mechanism for conserving and maintaining the large amount of open space retained, utilizing a low-impact design and construction approach, and allocating some of the substantial local revenue generated toward natural area conservation and acquisition elsewhere in the County.

There are growing concerns about the impacts of high levels of energy and water consumption generated by the tremendous increase in the number of data center projects in the Atlanta region. The applicable water provider should carefully examine its capacity to meet peak-day project demands.

The project will generate a total of 1,744 new vehicular trips; a number of roadway improvements are proposed to help mitigate the traffic impact.

General Comments

The Atlanta Region's Plan, developed by ARC in close coordination with partner local governments, is intended to broadly guide regional development in the 12-county metro region to ensure that required infrastructure and resources are in place to support continued economic development and prosperity. The Plan assigns a relevant growth management category designation to all areas in the region- Rural Areas for this project – and provides accompanying growth policy recommendations which are detailed at the end of these comments.

There are growing concerns about the impacts of high levels of energy and water consumption generated by the tremendous increase in the number of data center projects in the Atlanta region. ARC therefore recommends that the applicable water provider carefully examine its capacity to meet peak-day project demands, in addition to other current and projected peak-day demands. ARC also recommends the use of advanced "waterless" cooling technologies or "near waterless" technology for data center projects.

Transportation and Mobility Comments

ARC's Transportation and Mobility Group comments will be provided in the Final Report.

The project will generate a total of 1,744 new vehicular trips; a range of roadway modifications are proposed to mitigate the traffic impact.

Care should be taken to ensure that the constructed development provides an interconnected, functional, clearly marked and comfortable pedestrian experience on all driveways, paths, entrances, and parking areas. To the maximum extent possible, new driveways and intersection corners where pedestrians will cross should be constructed with minimal curb radii to reduce speeds of turning vehicles and decrease crossing distances for pedestrians.

ARC Natural Resource Group Comments

ARC's Natural Resource Group comments will be provided in the Final Report.

Environmental Comments

The project is somewhat aligned with regional environmental policies in that it preserves a large amount of the site as natural area and generally limits stream buffer impacts. It could be more aligned with these policies by creating a mechanism for conserving and maintaining the large amount of open space retained, utilizing a low-impact design and construction approach, and allocating some of the substantial local revenue generated toward natural area conservation and acquisition elsewhere in the County. The project can support The Atlanta Region's Plan by incorporating other green infrastructure and/or low-impact design, e.g., pervious pavers, rain gardens, vegetated swales, etc., in parking areas and site driveways, and as part of any improvements to site frontages.

Unified Growth Policy Map Considerations: Rural Areas

This DRI site is designated Rural Areas on the Unified Growth Policy Map which are areas in the region where limited development has taken place or and where development pressure is low. These areas are characterized by sporadic, large single-family lots, agricultural uses, protected lands, and forests. These areas border more central developed and developing areas and represent the limits of the urban service area in the region. There is a strong desire from residents and elected officials in these areas to keep them rural. Increased development threatens existing rural economic uses, such as forestry, agriculture, and tourism.

To maintain economic viability without undesirable development, these areas may be appropriate as "sending" areas in potential Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) programs. The region is striving to protect these areas by limiting infrastructure investments to targeted areas and allowing no development or only low impact development. There will be a continued need to maintain existing transportation infrastructure, but care should be taken not to spur unwanted growth by inappropriate expansion of infrastructure capacity.

The project is not aligned with Rural Areas policies due primarily to its large building and infrastructure footprints. It could be better algned with these policies by creating a mechanism for conserving and maintaining the large amount of open space retained, utilizing a low-impact design and construction approach, and allocating some of the substantial local revenue generated toward natural area conservation and acquisition elsewhere in the County. The final design of the project could further the intent of the Rural Areas policy recommendations by utilizing rural character elements in the design of project roads, bridges, fences, and related components.

Douglas County leadership and staff, along with the applicant team, should collaborate closely to ensure optimal sensitivity to the needs of nearby local governments, neighborhoods, and natural systems.

THE FOLLOWING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND AGENCIES RECEIVED NOTICE OF THIS REVIEW:

ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCE
GEORGIA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
GEORGIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY
CITY OF VILLA RICA
CARROLL COUNTY

GEORGIA CONSERVANCY
DOUGLAS COUNTY

CITY OF DOUGLASVILLE PAULDING COUNTY

For questions, please contact Donald Shockey at (470) 378-1531 or dshockey@atlantaregional.org. This finding will be published to the ARC review website located at http://atlantaregional.org/plan-reviews.



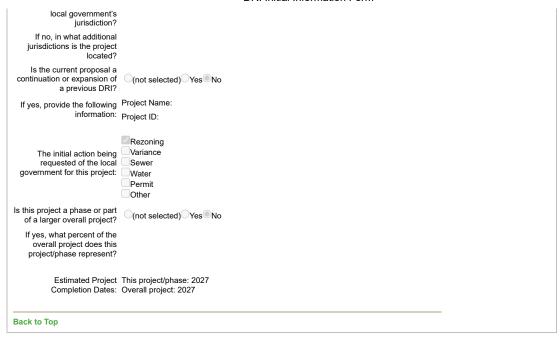


Developments of Regional Impact

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DRI #4192 DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT Initial DRI Information This form is to be completed by the city or county government to provide basic project information that will allow the RDC to determine if the project appears to meet or exceed applicable DRI thresholds. Refer to both the Rules for the DRI Process and the DRI Tiers and Thresholds for more information. **Local Government Information** Submitting Local Government: Douglas Individual completing form: Phil Shafer Telephone: 770-920-7313 E-mail: pshafer@douglascountyga.gov *Note: The local government representative completing this form is responsible for the accuracy of the information contained herein. If a project is to be located in more than one jurisdiction and, in total, the project meets or exceeds a DRI threshold, the local government in which the largest portion of the project is to be located is responsible for initiating the DRI review process. **Proposed Project Information** Name of Proposed Project: Douglas Waldrop Location (Street Address, 2912 Post Rd, Winston, GA 30187 GPS Coordinates, or Legal Land Lot Description): Brief Description of Project: New light industrial buildings to house data center uses together with associated roads, parking, infrastructure **Development Type:** (not selected) Hotels Wastewater Treatment Facilities Office Mixed Use Petroleum Storage Facilities Commercial Airports Water Supply Intakes/Reservoirs Wholesale & Distribution OAttractions & Recreational Facilities OIntermodal Terminals Hospitals and Health Care Facilities Post-Secondary Schools Truck Stops Housing Waste Handling Facilities Any other development types Industrial Quarries, Asphalt & Cement Plants If other development type, describe: Project Size (# of units, floor 1,760,850 square feet across 2 two-story buildings Developer: TC Atlanta Development, Inc. Mailing Address: 3550 Lenox Rd NE Address 2: Suite 2200 City:Atlanta State: GA Zip:30326 Telephone: 404-441-1992 Email: sharris@trammellcrow.com Is property owner different (not selected) Yes No from developer/applicant? If yes, property owner: Fred and Tommy Waldrop, MLO Douglasville, LLC Is the proposed project (not selected) Yes No

entirely located within your



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Developments of Regional Impact

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Tier Map

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DRI #4192

DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT Additional DRI Information

This form is to be completed by the city or county government to provide information needed by the RDC for its review of the proposed DRI. Refer to both the Rules for the DRI Process and the DRI Tiers and Thresholds for more

Local Government Information

Submitting Local Government: Douglas

Individual completing form: Phil Shafer

Telephone: 770-920-7313

Email: pshafer@douglascountyga.gov

Project Information

Name of Proposed Project: Douglas Waldrop

DRI ID Number: 4192

Developer/Applicant: TC Atlanta Development, Inc.

Telephone: 404-441-1992

Email(s): sharris@trammellcrow.com

Additional Information Requested

Has the RDC identified any additional information required in order to proceed

with the official regional review process? (If no,

(not selected) Yes No

proceed to Economic Impacts.)

applicable, GRTA?

If ves. has that additional information been provided to your RDC and, if

(not selected) Yes No

If no, the official review process can not start until this additional information is provided.

Economic Development

Estimated Value at Build-Out:

\$2.2 Billion Dollars

Estimated annual local tax revenues (i.e., property tax, sales tax) likely to be

\$50.0 Million Dollars

generated by the proposed development:

Is the regional work force

sufficient to fill the demand created by the proposed

(not selected) Yes No

Will this development displace any existing uses?

(not selected) Yes No

If yes, please describe (including number of units, square feet, etc):

Water Supply

Name of water supply provider for this site

DOUGLASVILLE-DOUGLAS COUNTY WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

What is the estimated water supply demand to be generated by the project, measured in Millions of Gallons Per Day (MGD)?	0.01 MGD	
Is sufficient water supply capacity available to serve the proposed project?	(not selected) Yes No	
If no, describe any plans to expand the existing water supply capacity:		
Is a water line extension required to serve this project?	(not selected) Yes No	
If yes, how much additional line (in miles) will be required?		
Wastewater Disposal		
Name of wastewater treatment provider for this site:	DOUGLASVILLE-DOUGLAS COUNTY WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY	
What is the estimated sewage flow to be generated by the project, measured in Millions of Gallons Per Day (MGD)?	0.008 MGD	
Is sufficient wastewater treatment capacity available to serve this proposed project?	○(not selected) Yes No	
If no, describe any plans to expand existing wastewater treatment capacity:		
Is a sewer line extension required to serve this project?	(not selected) Yes No	
If yes, how much additional li	ine (in miles) will be required?0.6 miles	
Land Transportation		
How much traffic volume is expected to be generated by the proposed development, in peak hour vehicle trips per day? (If only an alternative measure of volume is available, please provide.)	223 AM Peak Hour Trips/Day, 188 PM Peak Hour Trips/Day	
Has a traffic study been performed to determine whether or not transportation or access improvements will be needed to serve this project?	○(not selected)®Yes®No	
Are transportation improvements needed to serve this project?	(not selected) Yes No	
If yes, please describe below:Driveway 1: Install eastbound right-turn deceleration lane & westbound left-turn lane on Hwy 78 Post Rd @ I-20 Westbound Ramp: DCDOT & GDOT to ingestive inclusion of southbound right-turn lane onto interstate		
Solid Waste Disposal		
How much solid waste is the project expected to generate annually (in tons)?	+/- 480 tons/yr	
Is sufficient landfill capacity available to serve this proposed project?	(not selected) Yes No	
If no, describe any plans to expand existing landfill capacity:		
Will any hazardous waste be generated by the development?	○(not selected) Yes No	
If yes, please explain:		
Stormwater Management		

What percentage of the site 36.7% is projected to be impervious surface once the

proposed development has been constructed?		
Describe any measures proposed (such as buffers, detention or retention ponds, pervious parking areas) to mitigate the project's impacts on stormwater management: The project will implement the use of detention ponds and comply with local and state buffers to mitigate the projects impact on storm-water management.		
Environmental Quality		
Is the development located within, or likely to affect any of the following:		
Water supply watersheds?	○(not selected) ◎Yes No	
Significant groundwater recharge areas?	(not selected) Yes No	
3. Wetlands?	(not selected) Yes No	
4. Protected mountains?	(not selected) Yes No	
5. Protected river corridors?	(not selected) Yes No	
6. Floodplains?	(not selected) Yes No	
7. Historic resources?	(not selected) Yes No	
8. Other environmentally sensitive resources?	○(not selected) Yes No	
If you answered yes to any question above, describe how the identified resource(s) may be affected: This project lies within the Dog River Secondary Protection Area, which limits impervious surface area. There is potential for wetlands on the project site, and these areas will be carefully evaluated as the project advances to minimize potential impacts.		
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